



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re the Application of:

Tadahiro OHMI et al.

Serial No.: 09/023,416

Group Art Unit: 3754

Filed: February 13, 1998

Examiner: J. Fox

For: FLUID CONTROL APPARATUS

RESPONSE TO THE ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT
DATED APRIL 2, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: May 22, 2001

Sir:

Sir:

In response to the Requirement for an Election of Species Requirement dated April 2, 2001, the applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the species embodying Species A, one fluid and two 2 type devices. Claim 1 is generic and Claim 2 is specific to Species A. The applicants reserve the right to file Divisional applications on the non-elected claims in Species B, two fluids and two 2-3 type devices; Species C, two fluids and one 2-3 type devices and one 2-3-3 type device; Species D, Figure(s) two fluids, a bypass and two 3-3 type devices; and Species E, Figure(s) tow fluids, and evacuating channel, a bypass channel, a 3-3 type device and a 3-3-3 type device). The applicants respectfully request an early examination on the elected s and favorable action on the merits. If the Examiner has any questions with this Response, please feel free to call the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

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In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please charge
our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI,
McLELAND & NAUGHTON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Carney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Carney" clearly distinguishable.

John F. Carney
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 20,276

Atty. Docket No. 980150
1725 K Street, N.W., Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: (202) 659-2930
Fax: (202) 887-0357
JFC/llf